

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David Thompson on 06/18/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

- In claim 26, lines 1-2, "medium, defined on a computer memory storage device," has been changed to --memory device,--

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 4-5, 8-9, 15-20, 25-27, 29-30, and 34 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to independent claims 1, 27, and 30, the prior art of record fails to show or reasonably suggest the claimed invention taken as a whole with respect to a thumbnail display system removing a thumbnail from a thumbnail display at the conclusion of a fixed period of time, and displaying an access point to allow access to thumbnail images removed after the fixed period of time.

The closest prior art found (Novak, US PG Pub # 20030126599 and Gatto, US Patent # 7346917), discloses adding bookmarks to programming content and sending the bookmarks and

programming content to another device for playback and invoking of the bookmarks (see Office Action dated 12/28/2009, pages 3-4), and further displaying the bookmarks to be accessed by the user (Novak, figure 9), however does not disclose removing a bookmark from a display after a predetermined amount of time and accessing the bookmarks that were removed after a predetermined amount of time by invoking a displayed access point.

Contact

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARK D. FEATHERSTONE whose telephone number is (571)270-3750. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM M-F US Eastern.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Koenig can be reached on (571) 272-7296. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Mark Featherstone/ - Assistant Examiner

/Andrew Y Koenig/
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